

Establishment and expansion of trade relations is an ongoing process.

(c) (i) exchange of business and trade delegations.

(ii) participation in trade fairs and exhibitions.

(iii) holding contact promotion programmes among the business communities of India and those countries.

(iv) holding bilateral trade talks at ministerial/official levels and

(v) identification of thrust commodities and their promotion for exports.

Development of National Highways in Bihar

1853. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposals sent by the Government of Bihar to the Union government for development of national Highways during 1991-92;

(b) the number of proposals accorded approval; and

(c) the allocation made for the said proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGADISH TYLER): (a) and (b). 37 numbers of proposals for development/improvement of national Highways in Bihar have been received during 1991-92 from the Government of Bihar. Out of these, 20 numbers of proposals amounting to Rs. 1279.731 lakhs were approved. Out of the remaining 17 proposals, 7 numbers were returned to state Government for modifica-

tion of estimates and 10 proposals are under scrutiny.

(c) For 1991-92, an allocation of Rs. 12 crores has been given to Bihar for various ongoing national Highway works including projects approved during the year.

Allowances to Central Government Employees in Hill districts of Uttar Pradesh

1854. SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANBURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central government employees posted in Hilly districts of Uttar Pradesh are being given Special Compensatory (remote Locality) Allowance and House Rent allowance;

(b) If not, the places in these district where the employees are being given the said allowances;

(c) whether the Government have received any representation from the Central Government employees posted in those places of the above districts where these allowances are not being given;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE) (a) and (b). Special Compensatory (Remote Locality) allowance and House rent Allowance at unclassified city rates are admissible to the Central Government employees posted in the Districts of Uttarkashi, Chamoli and Pithoragarh with the exception that in Pithoragarh town House Rent Allowance is admissible at 'C' class city rates.

(c) to (e). Representations revived for grant of Special compensatory (Remote Locality) allowance to the Central Government employees are under consideration.

[English]

Development of national Highway No. 4

1855 SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to widen and develop the Pune-Kolhapur section of National Highway No.4 to ease the problem of traffic congestion; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGADISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). There is no proposal at present to widen this section to 4-lanes.

[Translation]

Clearance to Companies Under MRTTP Act

1856 SHRI BRAHAMANAND MANDAL:
SHRIMATI D.K. BHABDARI:

Will the MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the existing procedure for clearance to companies under the purview of MRTTP Act has since been streamlined;

(b) whether the new streamlined procedure will also be applicable to companies seeking substantial expansion and setting

up of new undertakings;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government proposes to simplify the existing procedure further; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMAR MANGALAM): (a) to (e). In terms of the MRTTP (Amendment) Ordinance dated 27.9.91 followed by MRTTP (Amendment) act of 1992, the provisions under Sections 21 and 22 existing in the Act have been deleted. Therefore, at present, approval of the Central government is no longer required under the MRTTP Act for expansion of an undertaking or for the establishment of a new undertaking. Accordingly, the procedure existing prior to the amendment for dealing with applications under Sections 21 and 22 has been discontinued.

[English]

Drug Smuggling

1857. SHRI CHHITUBHAIGAMIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the cases of drug smuggling detected and the details of narcotic drugs seized during each of the last two years;

(b) the number of prosecutions launched and the outcome of such cases; and

(c) the disposal of the seized drugs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI